

- 8.** A connector assembly comprising:
a receptacle connector having an insulative enclosure and an exterior metallic shell formed at least partially around an exterior of the enclosure, the enclosure defining a receiving cavity sized to receive a plug portion of a mating connector;
a bracket coupled to the exterior metallic shell; and
a ground spring positioned between the exterior metallic shell and the bracket, the ground spring having at least one spring arm with a distal end that protrudes through an aperture defined by the enclosure such that the distal end is positioned within the receiving cavity.
- 9.** The connector assembly of claim **8** further comprising a plug connector having an exterior metallic body that is attached to the bracket.
- 10.** The connector assembly of claim **9** wherein the plug connector includes a pair of transverse extensions that are laser welded to the bracket.
- 11.** The connector assembly of claim **9** wherein the distal end of the at least one spring arm is positioned to contact the plug portion of the mating connector when the plug portion is received within the receiving cavity.
- 12.** The connector assembly of claim **11** wherein a ground path is formed between the plug connector and the plug portion of the mating connector via the ground spring and the bracket.
- 13.** The connector assembly of claim **8** wherein the ground spring is welded to the exterior metallic shell and welded to the bracket.
- 14.** The connector assembly of claim **13** wherein the bracket is welded to an exterior metallic body of a plug connector.
- 15.** The connector assembly of claim **8** wherein the ground spring includes a pair of spring arms, each having a distal end that protrudes through a corresponding aperture defined by the enclosure.

- 16.** An accessory for an electronic device comprising:
a housing including a bottom wall extending between first, second, third and fourth sidewalls to define a cavity that is sized and shaped to receive the electronic device;
an accessory receptacle connector disposed within the housing and defining a receiving opening positioned at an outside surface of the housing and a receiving cavity coupled to the receiving opening;
a plug connector positioned within the cavity at an internal surface of the first sidewall and configured to be inserted into a corresponding receptacle connector of the electronic device when the electronic device is received within the cavity;
a bracket coupled to a metallic shell of the accessory receptacle connector and to a metallic body of the plug connector, the bracket having a curved portion that substantially matches a curvature of the first sidewall and a straight portion that extends substantially parallel to the plug connector; and
a ground spring positioned between the accessory receptacle connector and the bracket, the ground spring having at least one spring arm with a distal end that is positioned within the receiving cavity.
- 17.** The accessory of claim **16** wherein the distal end is positioned to contact a plug portion of a mating connector when the plug portion is received within the receiving cavity.
- 18.** The accessory of claim **17** wherein a ground path is formed between the plug connector and the plug portion of the mating connector via the ground spring and the bracket.
- 19.** The accessory of claim **16** wherein the ground spring is welded to the metallic shell of the accessory receptacle connector and welded to the bracket.
- 20.** The accessory of claim **16** wherein the ground spring includes a pair of spring arms, each having a distal end that are positioned within the receiving cavity.

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